

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL

VOL. V.]

General Summary of News.

[No. 181.

By the arrival of the Honorable Company's ships Princess Charlotte and Lord Wellington, on Sunday, we have been furnished with regular files of the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Times*, and other London Papers up to the 20th of May, the contents of which we have hastily gone through, in order to lay a general abstract of them before our readers.

We have received also by this occasion several periodical publications, and new works, among which are the Asiatic Journal for May, and Lord Byron's Tale of *The Vampyre*. Of these we shall speak on a future occasion.

It will be remembered that our last intelligence by the Carnatic extended to the 21st of April, to which period the Houses of Parliament had adjourned for the Easter recess, after which the first important subject that was likely to come before their notice was the Catholic question.

Continuing onward our regular series of intelligence from this date, we find by the Paper of the 22nd of April that the House of Commons met on the preceding day, pursuant to adjournment; when the usual forms were gone through, but no important business entered on.

On the same day there was a General Court held at the East India House, for the purpose of considering the recommendation of the Court of Directors to grant 75,000 rupees, at 2s. with interest at six per cent to Mr. Wilkinson, for his losses on the salt-petre monopoly being resumed by the Government here, and also the proposition of Mr. Forbes that the amount of the compensation should be 288,000 rupees at 2s. 6d. with interest at eight per cent.

In the course of the Debate which ensued, which is too long for insertion here, but for which we shall find room on a future day, Mr. STRETTLE questioned the right of the Indian Government to issue the embargo by which Mr. Wilkinson's losses were occasioned, as a British Minister could not order an embargo without being liable to impeachment. Mr. R. MOORE speaks of the loose and irregular manner in which the Board of Trade in India had acted upon this as well as other occasions. Mr. GAHAGAN opposed the Chairman, Mr. GRANT, as to the right of the Indian Government to issue the embargo. Mr. RANDALL JACKSON asked, in answer to the objections made to this on account of the depressed state of the Company's funds, whether the India Company meant to consider how much it would cost them for being honest?—

The second amendment of Mr. FORBES for granting to Mr. WILKINSON the sum of 188,000 rupees at 2s. 6d. with interest at six per cent, was put and negatived. There being 32 for and 32 against it, and according to the practice of this Court the Chairman has no casting vote; while, where the numbers are equal, the decision is in the negative. On the next question, the numbers were 33 and 31, in consequence of which the Chairman declared that there was then no question before the Court.

Hence it appearing that the decision was against any compensation to Mr. Wilkinson, a desultory, and rather angry, conversation arose, several Gentlemen who voted in the majority declaring that they did not mean that such should be the result, and that they voted under a mistake. But upon consulting the Solicitor of the Company, it was found that the votes could not be regularly taken again, and that the business must begin *de novo*; therefore, Mr. Forbes moved an adjournment, after intimating his intention to follow up the business; and his motion was seconded by Sir Charles Cockrell, who had supported the Honourable Gentleman's amendment.

On the 22nd of April, a motion was made in the House of Commons, by Sir JOHN NEWPORT, for an inquiry with respect to the state of the Protestant Church in Ireland, and after a long Debate, the motion was agreed to.

In the Papers of the 23rd, heavy failures at Manchester are announced, which, it was thought, would materially affect Liverpool also. Riots at Leeds had proceeded to such extremity, that the 15th Dragoon Guards were constantly under arms there. Emigration from this quarter to America had been extensive; and one rich farmer, who had been refused a renewal of his lease, but at a rent which the produce of his lands would not pay, was preparing to embark with a property of £12,000, and with several families in his train.

The Houses of Parliament adjourned until the 26th, in consequence of the Prince Regent's *State* birth-day, as one of the Papers terms it. The *Morning Chronicle* of the 24th, has the following paragraph, on the state of commerce and finance in the country.

"A general gloom appears to hang over the country, in consequence of the stagnation of trade, the scarcity of money, the frequent and alarming failures, as well as the unprecedented distress prevailing among the manufacturing and shipping interests. At no period, indeed since the restoration of peace, has mercantile pressure been so great, nor is any hope entertained that the projects of Ministers will procure substantial relief. The manufacturer and the hoider of the raw material are in the same predicament; neither can sell, because goods have no demand. Last year's shipments have besides been disheartening. Our increase of tonnage had been so great, that no more than one half now can find employment, the remainder is completely inactive."

If we were asked to account for these alarming evils, we should briefly answer, that they arise out of competition in foreign markets; out of the fact of many of our old channels of trade being dried up, without new connexions being formed; and lastly, because a large and important portion of the globe has long been carrying on only one-third of its usual commerce, whence an incalculable deficiency has been experienced, chiefly to the detriment of Great Britain."

These sentiments, which our readers will readily remember, are exactly accordant with those which we have repeatedly urged here, in opposition to a host of writers and talkers, who would delude both themselves and their neighbours into a belief that all was right, and that the glory and prosperity of England were still in their full tide—they have met, as such unwelcome truths always will, the opposition of the partisans of power, and of those interested in deceiving; for in the succeeding number of the same Paper, for the 26th of April, we find the following paragraph to that effect.

"We are accused by *The Courier* of dealing in "gloomy reports and surmises." It certainly would be convenient for Ministers if there were no such thing as an independent and vigilant Journal in existence, but that implicit faith should be placed in the statements which they themselves put forth. Happily for the country, however, the press is free, and the truth is brought to light—We repeat our assertion that at no time has the commercial state of the country been more embarrassed than at this moment—and the very increased amount of exports during the last year, does not contradict the fact. It proves only the adventurous spirit of trade, which strives by the most dangerous and desperate efforts, to relieve itself from the stoppage of all dealing. Goods are sent to every foreign port in the hopes of finding a market—for *The Courier* will not be bold enough to assert, that the exports have taken place on the good old mercantile principle of being actually ordered; or of there being even a probable demand and an ability to pay for them at the ports to which they have been sent. We have never questioned the reality of private wealth in England, nor the facility with which funds, may be obtained for almost any speculation—but private opulence is not public prosperity, since national torpor may exist with a very high degree of individual capital. It has been justly remarked, that the old and solid mercantile establishments have been the least involved in these gambling adventures which have brought on the present stagnation. The calculation in the city is, that, within the last nine months, not less than eight millions of money have been lost by the speculators in only two articles—corn and cotton. That so enormous a loss should not have produced a greater shock in the commercial world than has as yet been experienced, can only be accounted for by the facility of accommodation that has existed through the unrestrained issue of paper, but a day of account must come."

There was nothing of great interest before the Houses of Parliament, on the 26th. The Papers of the 27th, announce the receipt of dispatches from Bombay, dated as late as the 10th of December, 1818. The arrival of the Persian Ambassador, is also notified in the same Paper.

The claims of France were discussed on the 27th, in the House of Commons, and on the same day, a singular and extraordinary expedi-

ent was resorted to by the Ministers, to raise a sum of about four millions, on the Stock Exchange, which trick or expedient, when discovered, had the effect of causing the funds to fall in an instant, from 74 to 71½.

On the 29th of April, Debates arose in the House of Commons, on Petitions from the Catholics of London and Westminster, presented by Sir FRANCIS BURDETT; and a long Debate also on the Salt Duties. The funds were still low, and Messrs. Baring, Brothers and Co. and M. Angerstein, had declined bidding for the expected loan.

The same Papers say, that the grand expedition from Cadiz to South America, was not to sail until September.

M. de Constant, in the French Lower House, had taken the lead, and commenced his career, by a brilliant speech on the Liberty of the Press, which is praised for its force and eloquence.

It is stated in the *Journal du Commerce*, that Kotzebue had an annual salary of 15,000 roubles from Russia; for which he was to transmit to Petersburgh, extracts from all the publications which had any reference to the political events of the day, and where the opinions of any author differed from those professed by the Russian Cabinet, he was to combat them in his weekly Literary Journal.

All information, ex-officio, has been filed by the Attorney-General against Mr. Wardle, the Proprietor of the *Manchester Observer*, for an alleged libel upon both Houses of Parliament. The trial was to take place at the next Assizes for Lancashire.

On the 3rd of May, the great question of Catholic emancipation came before the House of Commons, when a host of Petitions were presented in favor of the Catholic claims, and Mr. GRATTAN, in a speech which fills six columns of the Morning Chronicle, and is as remarkable for its close reasoning and its eloquence, as its length, pleaded their cause most ably.

It is remarkable that of those who presented Petitions against the Catholic claims, several of them avowed their entire difference of opinion from their constituents, and were prepared to advocate the Catholic cause.

Mr. CROKER and Lord NORMANBY followed Mr. GRATTAN, the former in explanation, and the latter in a strain of great eloquence, feeling and strength. Mr. W. BECHER, also advocated the cause of the Catholics in the most energetic strain, and Sir ROBERT WILSON spoke a few words on the same side.

The only speakers on the other side of the question were Mr. LESLIE FOSTER, who took the lead; Mr. BROWNLOW, whose speech does not occupy twenty lines; and Lord LOWTHER, the report of whose is given in three, as it is said that His Lordship spoke a few words against further concession, as it tended to weaken the stability of the Protestant establishment.

It is plain, however, that neither truth, talent, nor independent principle, when all combined, are yet a match for influence in the British Parliament; for on this great and momentous question, in which all these were united on the side of emancipation, the House became clamorous for the question, and on the division, there appeared for Mr. GRATTAN'S motion 241, and against it 243, a majority of 2 only.

The Reporter adds that a considerable discussion took place after the division, in consequence of many gentlemen having acted with the majority by mistake, and that on an explanation five votes were struck off from the majority and one from the minority, leaving the ultimate decision against Mr. GRATTAN'S motion to be majority of TWO ONLY.

We shall give the Debate at length in its regular course, but in the mean time, we cannot refrain from giving the short paragraph of the writer in the Morning Chronicle, as following the report of this Debate. He says:—

"The friends of civil and religious liberty may congratulate themselves on the victory which they gained in the House of Commons last night. The motion of Mr. Grattan was indeed lost by a majority of 2; but there seemed to be a general feeling in those who voted against it, that the arguments of their opponents were unanswerable; for, with the solitary exception of Mr Leslie Foster and Mr. Brownlow, not a voice was heard in favour of the disabilities. Where was Mr. Peel? where was Sir William Scott, and the other Champions of the system of exclusion? Were they heedless of the admonitions of *The Courier* sleeping at their post? or were they convinced by the unanswerable arguments of Mr. Grattan and Mr. Croker, which produced so strong an impression on all who heard them? We must take it for granted, that conviction was also carried home to their minds: for we cannot suppose, if their sentiments remained unchanged, they could reconcile it to their consciences to allow their opponents to carry every thing so triumphant-

ly before them. The most formidable of the opponents of the Catholic may therefore be now considered as fairly beaten off the field."

The Debate cannot fail to produce a strong impression throughout the country. If the Catholics continue to conduct themselves with moderation, they may rest assured that they will soon have to congratulate themselves on their restoration to an equality of rights with their fellow citizens."

On the 4th of May, the question of the abolition of Lotteries, tho' before so often negatived, was again brought forward, by Mr. LYNTON, and after a long debate, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. BUXTON, Mr. WILBERFORCE, Mr. RICARDO, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. HUSKISSON and Mr. CANNING, took a part, the motion for the abolition was lost by a majority of 49 against it, the numbers being 84 and 133.

Notwithstanding the force displayed on the Catholic Question, by the friends of emancipation, it appears, that *The Courier* had as usual the audacity and disregard to truth, to send forth statements tending to give a very opposite impression. This is very properly noticed by the Morning Chronicle of the 5th of May, in the following terms:

"It might have been improper to have spoken of what passed in the House of Commons on Monday night, after the exclusion of strangers, if the gross misrepresentations of *The Courier* had not rendered correction a matter of necessity,

The *Courier* has three distinct misrepresentations:—

First, It is said, that the friends of the motion called for the division. That this is false, is apparent from the notorious fact, that (to say nothing of the attempts of Mr. Plunkett, and the known intention of Mr. Canning and Lord Castlereagh) Mr. Lamb tried for several minutes to obtain a hearing; and that Mr. Douglas and Sir James Macintosh shewed a disposition to deliver their opinions. Assuredly they were not prevented from doing so by the friends of the motion.

Secondly, It is not true that Mr. Peel offered himself to the attention of the House at the same time with Mr. Plunkett. It is notorious, that a considerable debate occurred on the point of Order, whether Mr. Plunkett could be heard at the stage of proceeding at which he rose? That Mr. Peel went through the formality of rising, it might be difficult, in a scene of such confusion, positively to deny; but that he never wound up his courage to the speaking point, is most certain. It would be invidious to advert to all the marks which he betrayed of a mind painfully divided between the fear of exposing himself to be crushed by Mr. Plunkett on the one hand, and the apprehension that he would be thought, on the other, to have resigned, by his silence, the lead of the intolerant faction. His dread of Mr. Plunkett prevailed.

Thirdly, It is equally untrue that Mr. Croker confined his support of the Catholic Claims, to his interpretation of the existing laws, unless that interpretation be co-extensive with their utmost claims. In 1813, he voted for their admission into Parliament. That his construction of law is not exact, is the universal opinion of those who most applauded his bold ingenuity, and was not very seriously denied by himself.

The vulgar insolence of *The Courier* towards Mr. Grattan, will receive its just punishment, from the disgust and indignation of all gentlemen, whatever their opinions or connexions may be. It is quite worthy of such writers to pass over without notice, the beautiful speech of Lord Normanby, distinguished by generous feeling, as much as by ingenuity and eloquence; and that of Mr. Becher, which considered either as the testimony of an independent and most sagacious witness, or as the fruit of a vigorous and enlightened understanding, has in effect and authority been rarely equalled in Parliament. It is amusing to any man present at the debate, to see it represented in any other light than as one of the most signal defeats ever experienced by the intolerant faction. The vision of a No Popery Administration is for ever dispelled.

The division was indeed brought on at an unexpected moment, but for which it is easy to account. Mr. Plunkett and Mr. Peel were both prepared to speak, but each was inclined to give precedence to the other. Mr. Peel was loudly called for, but he kept his seat, and an interval of silence taking place, the Speaker put the question, to which the answer by the House *aye* and *no* was distinctly given. It was then for the Speaker to declare which side had the majority, but on the instant Mr. Plunkett rose. It was however observed, that the question having been put and answered, no Member could renew the debate. Some argument took place on this, during which, several Members got into the House before the division, and joined in it. This is contrary to the rule; for though it is not necessary for a Member to hear the argument on a question, he must be in the House and hear it put from the Chair, to entitle him to vote. By this dextrous manoeuvre of keeping the door open for a time,

the numbers of the majority were said to be 243—but several gentlemen were called upon by name, as having got access after the question was put; and they having owned the fact, their votes were struck off, which reduced the majority to two, as we stated in yesterday's paper.

Nothing however, could be more decisive than the sense of the House on the great national question, pronounced as it was; since not to reckon on those who paired off, the invalids who could not remain to so late an hour, and the number of Members in town who absented themselves from deference to the contrary opinion of their constituents, the division was the greatest but one ever known in Parliament, there being, including the Tellers and Speaker, no fewer than 493 present. The list of the Minority will also shew the respectability of the individuals of which it was composed.

But, in addition to those who voted in favour of the Catholics, we are enabled to state, that General Fergusson, Mr. Coke of Norfolk, Mr. Howarth, Mr. W. T. Robarts, and Mr. W. A. Robarts, were prevented from testifying their opinion, which is notoriously on the same side, in consequence of the sudden and unexpected manner in which the division was pressed. We say the sudden and unexpected manner, because we know that an adjournment of the Debate was generally expected, and that the division was not looked for until yesterday evening. In consequence of this expectation, indeed, some of the most decided advocates of the Catholic Cause happened to be absent. The friends of intolerance have therefore no reason to be proud of the result of this division, while they must know that they cannot calculate upon the future; for they have found themselves egregiously in error in reckoning upon a majority in the New Parliament, no less than twenty new Members, whom they set down among their adherents, having actually voted against them. Their own intelligencers can assure them of this fact, while they must hence feel, if capable of docility, that the progress of knowledge is decidedly hostile to their views."

The Sun of the 4th of May contains the following paragraph:—"It is confidently whispered in the political circles, that orders have been recently issued in our Dock-yards for vigorous warlike preparations. The grounds for these orders are said to be alleged imperfections in our Treaty with America, the evident ambition and rapacity of the United States, and the uncertain posture of French affairs. We do not venture to vouch for the truth of these confident rumours, but we conceive that the grounds thus stated are substantial and satisfactory, fully relying on the prudence of our Government, and on the alertness, knowledge, and energy of our Naval Administration."

On the 5th of May, Lieut. Parry took leave of the Lords of the Admiralty, previous to his leaving England, on the Northern Expedition, to be prosecuted in the present year.

The Papers of the 6th of May, contain several notices of General Courts of the East India Company, to be held for the consideration of grants in aid of a Fund for the benefit of the Widows and the Families of deceased Officers on the home establishment; for the grant of £60,000 out of the territorial revenues of India, to the Marquis of Hastings; and for a grant of £1,500 to Sir Murray Maxwell, late Captain of His Majesty's late Frigate Alceste.

The Papers of this date announce, that Calcutta Journals had been received in London to the 16th of December, and that the arrival of His Majesty's Ship Topaze, and the relief brought by her to the money market of this place were known in England.

We find in the same Paper, the two following detached paragraphs:

"The Americans are fitting out, for the first time, an expedition round the world. The Congress frigate, Captain Henley, has been selected for the purpose, and by the last advices was lying at Norfolk, nearly ready for sea. She takes out with her from 20 to 30 midshipmen, and is expected to be absent about two years."

* We fear we shall not be able to lay before our readers a List of the Minority who voted in support of Roman Catholic Emancipation. The difficulty of making out such a List with even an approach to accuracy forbids the attempt. There were more Scots Members voted in that glorious Minority than we ever saw on any question favourable to liberty before. We trust the Irish Members will, in return, give their support to the Motion for Scots Borough Reform."

On the 6th of May, Mr. Peel presented the Report of the Bank Committee, on the expediency of their resuming Cash Payments at the Bank, to the House of Commons. It is too long to be given as a whole here, without excluding other matters of general interest; but the substance of the Report may be gathered from the following paragraphs

from the Morning Chronicle of the same date, to which we add two or three succeeding ones, as connected with the topics then before the Public, from the Paper of the 7th of May:

"At length the Report from the Bank Committee was last night made to the House of Commons, and was read at the Table, by which we are enabled to present to our readers a faithful abstract of its contents. It is of great length, independent of the Appendix, and shews the very commendable labour that has been bestowed on this important investigation. The Lords' Report is not yet made, but it is understood that the two are in substance the same. We refer our readers to our abstract of the Report, as detailed in the proceedings of the House of Commons, since no more abridged sketch of it would satisfy their impatience. They will see that our previous notice of it was correct, as far as it went. The assets of the Bank are declared to be fully adequate to all their issues, and calculated to give entire confidence to the public. But the Committee recommend that they shall not be called on to pay bullion at 4l. 1s. per ounce till the month of February next, nor to be called on for a less quantity of bullion in exchange for their notes than 60 ounces. That in October, 1820, they shall pay in bullion at 3l. 19s. 6d.; and in two years (that is from the 1st May, 1821), at the rate of 3l. 17s. 10½d. It is further recommended, that from the said 1st of May, 1821, they shall continue to pay, for not less than two years nor more than four years, bullion in exchange for their notes, at the standard price of 3l. 17s. 10½d. after which period of four years they shall resume payments in specie.

The public will be satisfied that in the course of this inquiry no party feeling has influenced the Committee. They have gone into the business with an earnest desire finally to put the public mind at rest, and to give them reliance on the circulation of Bank-notes to the exact amount necessary to the exigencies of the country. We again beg leave to refer the reader to our own brief report for the details. The printed copy will not be ready for delivery to the Members for several days.

On the subject of the Loan, all remains doubtful. Mr. TIERNY put a question to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to learn his intention, but Mr. Vansittart said, that he could not answer the Right Honourable Gentleman, as he must in that case go into the financial statement for the year.

We can say, however, on the rumour at the Stock Exchange, that the Loan is to be for 20,000,000*l.* in addition to which 5,000,000*l.* are to be taken from the Sinking Fund. This is the report, and this being a less Loan than was expected, has occasioned a small rise in the Funds. If this be truly the amount, the Chancellor of the Exchequer requires 15,000,000*l.* for the deficit of the year, 5,000,000*l.* to pay to the Bank, and 5,000,000*l.* only to fund Exchequer Bills, on the terms of his recent message, by which he is bound to receive the bills that may have been bought at 8*s.* premium, in part payment of the instalments, in the proportion of 25 per cent. (for which, by the bye, he is to pay 20*s.*—tolerable interest for the short accommodation!); and why, when he has so clearly committed himself, he should hesitate to answer Mr. Tierney's question, we cannot comprehend.

But every thing seems with him to be temporary management. We have heard of an expedient altogether new, and the legality of which is doubtful. Our readers are aware that all Exchequer Bills, dated prior to the 4th May, 1819, are now payable in any of the public revenue aids, taxes or supplies, or at the receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster. Those dated on the 4th May, 1819, are not payable till after the 5th of April, 1820. We understand that Bills dated prior to the 4th May have been altered to a subsequent date, so as not to make them payable till a twelve-month hence. The pretext is, that these Bills not having been issued, the date may be altered. Is this clearly legal?

Mr. Tierney last night gave notice of a motion on the State of the Nation for the 18th of May. This is a motion of the highest national interest, which accords with the practice of the purest periods of our history, and certainly at no period was it so imperiously demanded. Parliament is at this time fully attended; and we trust no Members will quit town till after this most important investigation, which will bring the whole state of the country, in point of foreign and domestic politics of financial, commercial, and manufacturing circumstances, into review, so as to look our actual condition in the face, and see what prospect of relief we have from the system on which Ministers are acting."

On the 7th of May, the Army Estimates were discussed in the House of Commons, of which the following was the result;

The following sums were voted:—

152,805l. for General and Staff Officers, and Officers of Hospitals.
 150,228l. for the Officers of the Public Departments of the Army.
 29,035l. for Medicines and Surgical Materials.
 121,668l. for Volunteer Corps.
 25,173l. for the Royal Military College.
 175,641l. for pay of General Officers not being Colonels of regiments.
 33,658l. for garrisons at home and abroad.
 127,437l. for full pay of retired and unattached officers.
 770,161l. for half pay and allowances to reduced officers.
 129,750l. for ditto for foreign corps.
 42,849l. for Chelsea Hospital.
 15,681l. for Kilmainham ditto.
 1,173,648l. for out-pensioners of Chelsea and Kilmainham.
 96,482l. for the Royal Military Asylum.
 104,122l. for widows' pensions.
 168,522l. for allowances in the Compassionate List.
 20,732l. for allowances to reduced Adjutants of Local Militia.
 37,337l. for superannuation of official persons.
 35,000l. on account of Exchequer fees.

Mr. ARBUTHNOT moved for certain sums for the supply of the Commissariat, the Barracks, and the Miscellaneous services, comprehending, as usual, provision for the maintenance of the Civil Establishments of our several Colonies. All the Honourable Member's motions were agreed to, after some desultory conversation upon the subject of the grants for Newfoundland, New South Wales, Ceylon, and Sierra Leone, in which Sir J. Newport, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Messrs. Irvine, R. Gordon, and Sir W. De Crespigny, took a part.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for a grant of eight millions to replace Exchequer Bills funded in 1818, which was agreed to.

The Papers of the 10th of May, contain a Second Report from the Secret Committee on the expediency of the Bank resuming Cash Payments, which enters into far greater detail than the former one, and which we shall also give on a future day.

In addition to the Naval Expedition preparing for the North, under Lieutenant Parry, we find that a Land Expedition is also in preparation to aid in the same object, as will appear by the following paragraph from a Paper of the 10th of May:

"In addition to the expedition for exploring Baffin's Bay, and determining the existence of a communication by water toward Behring's Straits, another is about to be undertaken by land, which is to proceed in a northern direction from the Hudson Bay Company's settlements. The persons to be employed in this arduous undertaking, it is said, are selected; and, from the assistance of the North American tribes, every prospect of success is entertained. It will be recollect, that many years ago Mr. Herne, and more recently Mr. M'Kenzie, fell in with the sea at two intermediate points, a considerable distance from each other, between Behring's Straits and Baffin's Bay."

There is another paragraph in the same Paper on the subject of the misrepresentations that go abroad regarding the flourishing state of our finances and commerce at home, which deserves to be repeated.

Notwithstanding the depressed state of trade in general—the numerous and extensive bankruptcies that are every day taking place—the low rate of wages, and the consequent increase of pauperism—the Treasury Journals would have us to believe that our commercial affairs are at present in a state of the greatest prosperity; such a paradox has not even the merit of being ingenious. There is not a person in the empire who, on the least reflection, must not be convinced of its extravagance and absurdity. It is equally at variance with common sense and with the plainest and most undeniable facts; nor can we conceive for what purpose it has been brought forward, unless it be to try how far confident assertion and flimsy sophistry is able to impose on the good sense and feeling of the public.

The excess of exports over imports is the only circumstance appealed to by the *Courier* and the other Treasury Journals, in support of their very extraordinary opinions. But these gentlemen should have known, that provided the accounts are accurate, this very circumstance would of itself afford unquestionable proof of the depressed state of trade. It would be very obliging if the *Courier* would deign to inform us whether any of his commercial friends ever exported a single package of goods, except with the intention of importing some more valuable produce in its stead?"

The Papers of the 11th of May, contain the following abstract of the contents of the Reports of the Committees on the Bank Affairs:—

"We last night received the printed Report of the Lord's Committees respecting the Bank of England. It forms a folio volume of 431 pages, including the Minutes of Evidence and Appendix. It is substantially the same, in respect of plan for the gradual resumption of Cash Payments, as the Commons Report; but of course it is different in the composition—its reasoning is more minute—and the Committees examined witnesses (Mr. Page and Mr. Fletcher), who were of opinion, that unless the Mint regulations for the coinage of silver were first altered, any attempt to remove the restrictions on the Bank must prove ineffectual. The Committees, however, think it their duty to declare, that they see no ground to apprehend that the present Mint regulations respecting the silver coinage, so long as such silver coin shall not be a legal tender beyond the amount of forty shillings, and that the Mint shall not be opened to the public for the coinage of that metal, will oppose any obstacle to the successful execution of the plan, which they have ventured to recommend.

The Bank Committee express surprise that the Bank should have issued, during the partial return to cash payments, notes to an equal amount with such payments, in addition to their paper previously in circulation.

The Bank had not gold to make those payments, they made notes, and therewith bought it, consequently the amount of issues in paper and gold tallied.

The Bank are recommended to resume cash payments; not to increase the amount of their notes; and not to restrain their discounts; but they have not gold to make cash payments, they must purchase it, and the Government must furnish them with the means of purchase. The Bank ask ten millions to be repaid them; the Committee back the demand—cash payments cannot be resumed without it.

The Committee do not mention the gold in the Bank coffers; its amount is small; they acted prudently.

Gold is four per cent. market price above mint price; to reduce it to mint price the circulating medium must be lessened four per cent.

Sellers will sell at four per cent. less than at present. Buyers will purchase at four per cent. less. Most people are buyers and sellers to an equal extent, and therefore will not suffer. Speculators who have not to purchase with the produce of their sales, but to repay monies borrowed, will suffer a loss of at least four per cent. on such speculative transactions, and if their *bona fide* property be less than the amount of such four per cent. loss, they will be ruined, but all who have not speculated beyond that extent, may fulfill their engagements.

In January, 1818, the amount of Bank-notes was about thirty-one millions, it is now about twenty-five millions, being probably a reduction of from seven to ten per cent. on the circulating medium of the kingdom. Speculators have suffered and involved regular traders with them—they must suffer still more—but however we may admire the nerve and talent of a successful speculator, he is not the man for whose benefit we are to forsake the general interest of the community."

On the 11th of May, the MARQUIS OF LANSDOWN moved in the House of Lords, for copies of all the communications that had been made from the American Government to the British, on the execution of Ambrister and Arbuthnot, and a long debate ensued, in which EARL BATHURST and the EARL OF LIVERPOOL justified the measure of the British Ministry not interfering in the business; and the motion of the MARQUIS OF LANSDOWN, for the production of the Papers, was negatived without a division.

On the same evening, a Motion was made in the House of Commons, by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, for a Bill to enable the Public to accept the magnificent sacrifice of the MARQUIS OF CAMDEN, who from motives of patriotism and public spirit, consented to give up to the Exchequer, all the emoluments he derived from it, in the office of Teller. Doubts had arisen, it appeared, whether this contribution would not be considered illegal as a benevolence, and whether therefore it could be accepted by the Exchequer, unless it were authorised by Parliament; and therefore the motion was made for a Bill, to enable the Exchequer to receive back the sacrifice of its disinterested Teller.

LORD CASTLEREAGH, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. BANKES, Mr. WILBERFORCE, and Mr. LONG, were loud in the praise of this act of noble generosity, and Mr. R. MARTIN, who spoke last, said that as it was the duty of the country to meet this generous proposition by something as magnanimous, he should propose, that they should refuse the gift, (*a laugh.*) Gentlemen of narrow incomes, he added, might put their circumstances *en gene*, by following so dazzling an example. Leave was given to bring in the Bill.

The War in Ceylon, came under discussion, introduced by Sir WILLIAM DE CRESPIGNY, and an enquiry into it, was supported by Mr. FORBES.

The same Paper has the following paragraph on the subject of affairs in the city:—

"An extraordinary sensation was felt yesterday at the Stock Exchange, by the fall of Bank Stock. On Saturday the price was 250, and yesterday morning it opened at 249, and fell rapidly to 239. Considerable sales were made, and there seems to have arisen an idea that the Bank Directors are hostile to the plan for the resumption of Cash Payments, and foresee great public distress."

The Papers of the 13th of May, contain two paragraphs which we cannot well shorten or abstract, and we give them therefore at length:—

"*The Fair Circassian.*—The above much-talked-of female was, by permission of her keeper, his Excellency the Persian Ambassador, introduced on Monday last to upwards of twenty Ladies of fashionable distinction, friends of his Excellency.—The introduction took place between one and two o'clock, in the front drawing room at his Excellency's residence in Charles street, Berkeley-square. The fair stranger was elegantly attired in the costume of her country; her dress was a rich white satin, fringed with gold, with a bandeau round her head, and wreaths of diamonds. She received her visitors with graceful affability, and they were highly pleased with her person and manners.—She is not, as has been represented, short and slender, she is of the middle stature, of exquisite symmetry, rather *en bon point*; her complexion is of a brownish cast, her hair a jet black, with beautiful arched black eyebrows, handsome black penetrating eyes, her features regular, and strikingly handsome. The Ladies were highly gratified, and passed great encomiums on the elegance of her person. Among the Ladies were present—Lady Augusta Murray, and Daughter; Lady Radstock, Lady Arden, Countess of Westmeath, the Misses Waldegraves, Mrs. Malcolm, Mrs. Majoribanks, &c.; Lady Augusta Murray presented the Fair Circassian with a beautiful nosegay, with which she seemed highly pleased."

"*Col. Fitzclarance's Journal.*—One of the most interesting and entertaining works we have for some time seen, is the Journal just published by Lieutenant-Colonel Fitzclarance, his route across India through Egypt to England, in the latter end of the year 1817 and beginning of 1818, when the bearer of the dispatches sent over land by the Marquis of Hastings. Nothing can be more gratifying than to see military men occasionally indulging in literary labours; and when those labours develop extensive research, accurate observation, and a style plain, clear, and perspicuous, as in the works of Sir John Malcolm, Colonel Leake, and the young and gallant Author before us, it is impossible not to feel a more than ordinary interest in their perusal. Colonel Fitzclarance's work consists of a series of memoranda regularly taken during his long and perilous route, of the occurrences of almost each day's march. Those have been arranged by the Author to relieve the burden of a confinement to which a serious accident unfortunately exposed him shortly after his return to England. It is due to this Author to state, that he has filled his Journal with singular felicity, and the events are so varied, and the incidents to which he is exposed so striking and novel, that the work can no more be said to tire the reader from its details being placed under his eye at one view, than the performance of a good play can be said to tire the spectator who is already in possession of the catastrophe, from having read it before he entered the theatre."

On the 13th of May, a motion was brought before the House of Commons by Mr. GRENFELL, regarding the application of the Sinking Fund; but though the strongest and clearest arguments were given in proof of the expediency of this measure, yet Ministers find it so conveniently suited to their immediate views to draw largely from this source, without regard to its ultimate object, that the motion was negatived by a majority of 78—the numbers being 39 and 117.

On the same evening, the ATTORNEY GENERAL brought forward his motion to prevent British subjects from enlisting in the service of Foreign Powers.

Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH followed his Learned Friend in opposition to this motion, and at the conclusion of his eloquent and able speech, said that this motion was not for the purpose set forth by the learned mover, to preserve our neutrality merely, but that it was obviously intended to facilitate the subjugation of the people of South America to the yoke of Spain (*hear, hear, hear!*). It implied a purpose, which it was notorious the people of the British empire disclaimed, detested, and despised. Were Government and Parliament then disposed to

manifest a sentiment which an immense majority of the British people would be forward to disown, or could they be reconciled to any proceeding calculated to re-impose tyranny and superstition upon the gallant people of South America (*hear, hear, hear!*)? As other occasions, however, would offer for the delivery of his opinion upon this interesting subject he would not then enter into it any further than to caution the House not to give its sanction to any measure so likely to outrage the feelings of the people, or to disgrace the character and injure the policy of Great Britain, as an act of hostility towards the people of South America (*loud cheers*).

There are a few paragraphs in the Papers of the 14th of May, with which we must at present close our notice of European affairs, to give some portion of our attention also to local matters, which now press upon us so fast, that we cannot lose sight of them, or break the chain of their succession even for a day. The paragraphs alluded to, are as follows:

"A Morning Paper of yesterday contains an extraordinary article of intelligence—namely, that the King of Sweden has received notice from the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia to descend from his Throne. At any other time than the present, we should not have believed that so violent a change in the system of Europe as that of the dethronement of one of its Sovereigns could take place without the consent of Great Britain; but under the imbecile administration now at the head of affairs, we cannot be surprised at any encroachments on the liberties of Europe, or any dictation whatsoever exercised by Russia over the smaller States whom Great Britain is no longer in a situation to protect. Russia sees and profits by our present nullity in the scale of nations: a nullity proceeding from exactly the same causes which have produced our financial embarrassments, and that internal distress of which every body so loudly complains. It is to the unnecessary wars waged by Mr. Pitt to prevent France from having a free Constitution, in 1793, that the origin of our difficulties is to be traced; and it is to the weakness of the present Administration at the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, and their inability to profit by the advantages of their situation, that we are to look for the daily affronts we receive from foreign Powers, and with which, for the first time since the reign of Charles II. we are obliged to put up."

"Mr. Grenfell, last night, brought on his motion, for instructing the Commissioners to employ the amount of the Sinking Fund, in taking so much of any loan for the year, as it was equal to supply, instead of laying it out in the purchase of old stock; and he shewed, in an impressive speech, the very material advantage that would have accrued to the public if this course had been pursued. We yesterday laid before our readers the unequivocal proof of this fact in the single instance of the loan of 1816, according to the official paper laid upon the table of the House of Commons—and it is manifest, as has been shewn by Professor Hamilton, and other writers on the subject, that if this course had been uniformly followed through the period of the war, the gain to the public would have been immense. The answer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to this was, that by a clause introduced into the Bill originally by Mr. Fox, the Commissioners had the discretion invested in them to employ the fund, and it would be wrong to make that compulsory which was now left to their discretion. Experience had proved that it was more agreeable to the Loan Contractors to have the money laid out gradually in the purchase of floating stock, than in a lump towards the loan itself—and they were induced to give better terms on this account. The fallacy of this argument was shewn by Mr. Ricardo, who maintained that the sagacity of Mr. Fox, in the original proposition, had been made apparent by the result. It was of no avail to the Loan Contractor that the Commissioners came into the market periodically to buy, when persons were sent with equal regularity to sell to the same amount. The argument for Mr. Grenfell's Motion was unanswerable, but Ministers persisted in their opposition, and their numbers prevailed."

"There can be no doubt, from the tenor of Mr. Attorney General's statement, that his motion for preventing British Officers and Privates from enlisting in foreign service without leave, applies to the South American Patriots, though it may also be said to apply to the United States—since the existing Act prevents them from enlisting in the service of any foreign Potentate or Sovereign—and neither North nor South America has any Potentate. Perhaps this is the result of an injunction from the Holy Alliance! It is in direct contradiction to their own proceeding, since they have seen and acquiesced in the embarkation of thousands of volunteers in the cause of South American independence. Is this one of the consequences of Lord Castlereagh's notable diplomacy at Congress—so emphatically exposed by Lord John Russell? We trust, however, the subservient measure comes too late."

Scots Law Promotions.—Some important changes are expected immediately to take place in the Supreme Courts of Scotland. The Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer has long been in a declining state of health, and he has at length signified his wish to retire on the pensions. The Lord Chief Commissioner Adam is mentioned as his successor, and Sir William Rae, the Sheriff of the county of Edinburgh, it is said, is to be the new Lord Advocate.

The Lord Advocate's celebrated Burgh Reform Bill, which has met with such decided opposition in all the Scots Burghs, is postponed, and his Lordship himself has obtained leave of absence from his Parliamentary duties for a month. From this sudden arrangement, it is supposed the Learned Lord has accepted the gowns of the late Lord Reston—appointments worth 2,600l. a year.

On the 14th of May, the Game Laws Amendment Bill was brought up, and a motion made by Mr. BRAND in the House of Commons for its being re-committed. A long Debate ensued, but the motion was thrown out by a majority of 60 against the Bill, the numbers being 119 and 59.

On the 17th of May, the Catholic Question was brought forward in the House of Lords, introduced by the Earl of DONOUGHMORE. The Bishop of Worcester, in a temperate and excellent speech, opposed the motion. The Bishop of Norwich spoke in favour of the Catholic Claims. The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH opposed them. The Lord CHANCELLOR opposed the motion in a speech of considerable length. Earl GREY followed on the other side at much greater length and with still greater force and eloquence. The Earl of LIVERPOOL maintained that the demand of the Catholics was for the absolute possession of power or for nothing. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE spoke in favour, and the Duke of WELLINGTON opposed it.

On the division there appeared—contents 70—Proxies 96—106. Non contents 97—Proxies 50—147. Majority against motion 41.

On the 18th of May, Mr. TIERNEY made his promised motion for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the State of the Nation in a speech of considerable length, and marked by all the characteristics of the speaker's close reasoning and persuasive arguments. Lord CASTLEREAGH followed in reply, and as usual made it appear, in the face of all the statements to the contrary, that the state of the Country was never more flourishing than at the present moment!!

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, and Mr. CANNING, took large shares in this Debate, and Mr. TIERNEY, as the original mover replied; when the division took place, and there were declared, for the motion 173, against it 357, majority against the motion 179. The Debate was of such length, that tho' it began early in the afternoon, it continued until half past two o'clock in the following morning!

On the same day, there was a meeting of Merchants at the London Tavern, to petition Parliament, against any measure calculated to produce a forced contraction of the circulating medium. And before the Chairman arrived, Mr. HUNT, who seems to be every where, mounted on one of the tables, but was forced to retire amidst continued hissing.

In the *New Times* of the 20th of May, the latest Paper that has come into our possession, we find that the resumed question of Mr. Wilkinson's claims was brought before the Court of Proprietors on the 19th. Mr. FORBES moved that 180,000 Sicca Rupees at 2s. 6d. each, should be paid to Mr. Wilkinson, for his losses. A long debate ensued, but, Mr. Forbes's motion was at length carried by a majority of nine, the numbers being for the grant 59, against it 50.

The grant to Sir MURRAY MAXWELL, of £1500 for losses &c. by the wreck of the Alceste Frigate, was also brought forward at the same Court, but Mr. HUME having proved that the property of Sir MURRAY MAXWELL was insured on this occasion, and that therefore losses was an improper term, the word was expunged, but the money was granted to him without specifying for what.

The contents of private Letters that we have seen, extending to the 20th of May, are almost wholly confined to mercantile matters, and they give a picture of distress, which fully bears out all that we have met with in the public Papers on this subject. The following, as containing some view of the effects of the Bank returning to Cash Payments, as well as mercantile matters, we incorporate with our general intelligence, rather than as a mere Commercial Report. This Letter is dated May 20, 1819, and is as follows:—

"There are strong reasons for anticipating a fall in this market on Gold and Silver Bullion."

The Committees of both Houses have made their report on the Bank Affairs and the state of the currency. These reports recommend a resumption of cash payments on a graduated scale, as follows:—

The Bank would have to deliver in exchange of its Notes—Gold in bars (of a weight not less than 60 ounces each) at the following prices:

On or before the 12th of February 1820, at 81 0

On or before the 12th of October 1820, at 79 6

On or before the 1st of May 1821, at (Mint price) 77 10*4*

Sometime afterwards, say two or three years, the Bank might be made to pay its Notes in Gold coin as formerly.

Should, as is probable, the suggestions of the Committee be adopted, there is no doubt that the prices of Gold Bullion will fall, and with it that of Silver and other goods. Indeed Gold and Silver in bars have already experienced a decline in price.

The Cotton market is still extremely flat indeed, and not likely to look up either at the above prospect of the increase in the value of money. Indigo had met with more encouragement than was expected. In Silk a most discouraging depression has taken place. At a private sale at the East India House, on the 21st of April, native filament Silk had sold as low as 9-7 per lb.; the highest price being 16-2, with a considerable stock on hand."

LORD MINTO.

(TO CORRESPONDENTS.)

In giving insertion to the following Letter, we are actuated by a feeling that we are confident has hitherto, and we trust always will continue to mark the public conduct of this JOURNAL: a strict regard to impartiality.

We may be permitted to add, that the paragraph regarding the late Lord Minto, which was casually adduced by the Writer signing himself *A FRIEND TO THE ARMY*, to prove a position regarding the danger of the system of BREVE RANK, really escaped our notice; as in receiving the Letters of those who have before often favored us with their communications, always couched in the most unexceptionable terms, it could hardly be expected that we should scrutinize and weigh every line, (and this is scarcely more than a line) of the manuscripts that come before us; more particularly when the subject on which the Writer's attention was bent, scarcely admitted the probability of his being influenced by any malicious motives in the use which he made of the name adduced in the instance in question.

For ourselves, we regret exceedingly that such a construction should have been placed on it, or that it should have given pain to any individual. In the truth or inaccuracy of the statements, either of our former Correspondent, or of the present whose Letter is here affixed, we do not at all participate; as we are not sufficiently acquainted with the history of Lord Minto's character or administration to pronounce whether the impressions of either are correct or otherwise. We deem the public administration of a public man to be a fair and legitimate subject of discussion; but we hold also that it should be such of his public acts as stand on record, and belong to the Public by their notoriety, that should be selected as objects of censure or praise; and if the character of Lord Minto were to pass under our review, it would be to these that our remarks should be confined.

At the same time, however, that we disavow any participation in the sentiments of either the one writer or the other, and beg to be understood as never doing so by the mere admission of opposite sentiments into our JOURNAL, in the Correspondence of others, except when we approve or disapprove in what is technically called Editorial language; we not only feel regret ourselves, at the impression created by the paragraph alluded to, but we have authority to state publicly in the most unequivocal manner that the Writer of it also regrets it as deeply, and that he publicly disavows any intention beyond that of supporting the position on which he was arguing, without intention, wantonly to asperse the name cited by him, or to wound the feelings of its admirers.

In this stage of the discussion, on the question of Breve Rank, interesting as it is to every individual in the Indian Army, it would be to be lamented indeed, if this unforeseen and certainly unintended evil impression should turn it into another channel, or in any way impede the expression of the opinions of intelligent Officers on a point of such great local importance.

We sincerely trust that this will not be the case, but that the question will be calmly and dispassionately continued; and with a view to bring the subject back into its original channel, we have given place in our present Number to the Letters that are now before us, in the order of the dates in which they were transmitted for publication.

Lord Minto.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

Sir,

Your Correspondent A FRIEND TO THE ARMY, has espoused a good cause—let him not, in the face of his Enemy, so commit himself—(I do not wish to apply a harsh epithet to his conduct,) as to diminish in the minds of those he would persuade, that confidence so valuable to himself and so essential to the attainment of his victory. A high-minded Army will not accept the *friendship* of a person who hesitates not to publish to the world an assertion, which it is *impossible* he could know to be true; conveying in it an aspersion of the character of a lamented Nobleman, not more conspicuous for his public than for his private virtues.

Let me ask this “Friend of the Army,” how he could possibly know that “the late Lord Minto, would have given the best appointment in India to have secured half a dozen votes in a particular County?” But, this is not all that is meant to be conveyed by this unguarded paragraph.—It is designed to mark with a deeper stain the high character he has been pleased to asperse; but which, I dare to believe, will, like the purer metals, not only live through the fire, but come out of the ordeal if possible more highly purified.*

B^e pleased to listen to what follows, on the subject of Lord Minto's exercise of patronage, with reference to the votes in the County alluded to.

A Friend of mine, an humble individual, had employed the leisure hours which, in time of peace, our profession so amply affords to us all, in the execution of a work, certainly laborious, but which the Earl of Minto, conceived would prove useful in an important department of the Government.

His Lordship knew nothing of this individual, except through the Public Records of His Government—He had no “Interest”—he had neither asked for, nor did he expect any thing from His Lordship. It happened that he came to Calcutta, and was introduced at his Lordship's Levee, I believe by one of the A. D. C.'s.—His Lordship received him with his usual well-remembered benignity of manner; and after one or two of the customary enquiries, His Lordship addressed him by saying he knew who he was, and how he was employed, that he had been for some time looking for a situation in Calcutta, for him, where an opportunity would be afforded him of prosecuting his work with advantage, mentioning an appointment at the same time for his acceptance (his Lordship was pleased to add) till a better should be in his gift. A better one did become vacant, and he was appointed to it, accompanied with an expression of His Lordship's intentions that he should succeed to a more valuable appointment, which he mentioned, and which would also be more convenient for his pursuits.

This appointment was one “of the best in India,” and—Mark! it was solicited by a gentleman, who had, at least whose Family had, a vote, or votes, in the County alluded to; and was refused by His Lordship, because he had intended the appointment for my Friend, who had no vote in that County to “secure”, nor even the advantage of an introduction to His Lordship.

His Lordship's motives for placing my Friend in the situation here alluded to, were, as you may see, entirely disinterested; founded on a conception of what His Lordship hoped would be productive of public advantage. It was surely no mean object of ambition, even in Lord Minto, to procure for his son the Representation in Parliament of the County of his Birth—we may therefore accede to your Correspondent that His Lordship did set a high value upon even a single vote, which might turn the scale either for or against him. But while we do this, what must be our admiration of the public virtue that made so great a sacrifice?

In requesting you to publish this Letter, my only motive is to perform an act of bare justice to the memory of a most amiable man: a distinguished public character, a zealous, indefatigable Servant of his Country; and I would have your Correspondent, and our “Friend” to remember (tho' I do not mean to apply the observation to himself particularly) that if we were to allow the character of public men to be decided by the pen of perhaps disappointed expectation, (however meritorious in other respects

* Altho' we give place to this Letter from a determination to observe strict impartiality, we cannot help asking, How,—if it was impossible that the Friend of the Army could have known what Lord Minto would have done,—this writer could possibly know what the Friend of the Army meant to convey? To call it an unguarded paragraph, and then to give it a malicious design, is not, we think, more justifiable. EDITOR.

the writer may be) where is the despenser of patronage that could stand the trial? He who has patronage must also have friends—perhaps unfortunate ones—men of *merit* also come forward, and are often as important as their neighbours: the expectations of all cannot be satisfied; and I firmly believe that the dispensation of patronage is often one of the most irksome and unsatisfactory parts of the duty which the Head of this Government has to perform.

I am, Sir, &c.

A.

Calcutta, September 4, 1819.

Lord Minto.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

Sir,

I believe none of your many and attentive Readers have ever yet had occasion to say, that I have made any unwarrantable use, or taken any unfair advantage of my being an anonymous writer; and knowing this surmise to be a well founded one, I feel the greater regret at being informed by you that my casual expression regarding Lord Minto should have given a moment's pain to any one connected with him either by the ties of blood, friendship, or gratitude.

I can assure you, for their information (those who know me have no need of such an assurance) that there were not the smallest malicious motives in my making the allusion in question; and that I really am exceedingly sorry to find that several persons have expressed themselves hurt by it, and I trust that this explanation will entirely do away with any pain, my expression may have given them.

As for disavowing the truth of the assertion (as I understand is required) it is a thing I cannot do any more than I can establish it; for my only authority is its being a rather common observation throughout the Army, and having heard it in many desultory conversations I am even unable to particularize any of my informants.

I have no motive whatever for wishing to remain concealed, except that this discussion regarding the Brevet Rank could not otherwise be so well carried on as it is under the present arrangement.

Calcutta, Sept. 6, 1819.

A FRIEND TO THE ARMY.

Brevet Rank.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

Sir,

In the discussions which are conducted in your Journal, respecting Brevet Rank, every Military man must take a side, and I frankly confess that mine is that of the *Old School*. I am glad we have got such an able and indefatigable champion as the FRIEND TO THE ARMY, who happily for us, arrived at the ghat just in time to give the Writer of THE NEW SCHOOL, a Rowland for his Oliver. He has well exposed his flimsy arguments, and the romantic and chivalrous notion of rewarding a man with rank and title, in place of giving him a good snug appointment upon which he may live comfortably, and go home with an independence.—The consequence of such a system would be that all the lads in a corps would be dreaming of the time when they should become Captains, and rise within the reach of this distinction. Instead of studying Dundas, and profiting by the experience of their seniors, half the Subalterns would be reading French Military books, and talking about “a regular sap,” and Colonel Jones's opinions, and lines of operations. The want of proper respect for their seniors, which is already but too apparent, would be increased.

It is true that several of our old Officers do not read a great deal: when they were young it probably was not much the fashion for Military men. Now to be sure there are reading rooms, and book clubs, spreading all over the country, and young men of five and twenty read the Edinburgh Review and Mill's History, where they imbibe disrespectful notions of our Honorable Employers, and learn to doubt the wisdom of Government. I found a lad in our own Battalion the other day reading a French account of the siege of Saragossa, which, since he is not an Engineer, can be of no use to him till he gets up to the command of a large detachment. As I have a great regard for his Uncle (who was a Major in our service,) I hinted this to him, but he replied that he hoped long before he was a Captain, Brevet Rank would be introduced, and then he might rise to a command sooner than I supposed. It is plain that he can have no business at a Siege, except commanding his Company, these ten years. The accounts of regular Sieges that he studies

all day with his compasses and his pencil, will be of no use to him in going against a mud fort. But he has got acquainted with some Officers who served in Spain, and they have turned his head with their stories about outposts, and Sieges and all their Peninsular notions. The young man has good interest, and if he exerted it, might get probably into the Barrack department. A little of his leisure time given to learning carpentry, and reading some good book about cements, (as I told him) would be of lasting use to him. But he looks down upon this, and will follow his own fancies.

Ever since I came into the service there has been a succession of innovations, and all tending to ruin it. In my time, instead of a number of Barrack Masters who get nothing but their salaries, the buildings of the Army were quietly managed by the Quarter Master General, who was himself a member of the Military Board, and by his deputy. A new Cantonment was a regular fortune, and produced a fine promotion by sending home the senior. He was followed after a few years in the same way by some other old and deserving Officer.—Another injury to the service was the abolition of the old appointment of Adjutant and Quarter Master. Our FRIEND shows that the Interpreters are not good for much, as he justly observes that "not one in ten of them can interpret explicitly." But before this change the old appointment was really a good one, as there was very little duty attached to it, and none but what any attentive Officer could perform. If the Lieutenant Colonel of a Battalion had some interest, and daughters, it used to be an excellent provision for his son-in-law.

I am sorry to observe an inconsistency in this able Writer, when he argues that the Officer who has been longest Quarter Master should be appointed Quarter Master of Brigade, in place of the senior Officer among the Quarter Masters. This could only cause discontent and disgust, and steady good Officers would always be cut out by others, who knowing they had not the claim of seniority, would endeavour to recommend themselves by a show of smartness and activity. Indeed this is too much the case at present, as the appointment is often obtained by the Brigadier for some fine young Officer of his own battalion, instead of being given to the senior Quarter Master. I have seen a deserving Officer's feelings very much hurt in this way;—A General Officer appointed another Quarter Master, who was his junior by a season, Quarter Master to the line, merely because he had admired his smartness in the command of a detachment: and this too when the other had expected to be appointed (being the senior) as a matter of right.

In place of the Commissariat, where Officers get small salaries and rise to large ones after many year's service, when I came out to Bengal, the Government paid nothing in time of peace, except the salary of one Gram Agent; and perhaps a Deputy. In time of war, or when any Expedition was formed, a Commissary of Supplies was appointed; the Army wanted for nothing; the Officer received only a small salary, and yet generally saved in the course of the campaign a handsome sum of money and went home.

But this Brevet promotion would be the worst of all innovations. When a man sees a younger Officer an Assistant Commissary General, he knows that the other has purchased this appointment by some year's drudgery at the desk, while he himself has enjoyed his shooting. When a younger man gets a Paymastership he can console himself with lamenting his own ill luck, and observing that this is the effect of interest. But to make a man Major in the Army over another's head, and to publish that this is for pre-eminent merit, must inevitably create discontent. The injury which would be done to many cooler and steadier Officers who have not had the same opportunities is glaring. The writer of the New School affects not to see this, but it must be evident to every one who has seen much service. A case in point will show this, and I may instance the Senior Captain of our Regiment, a most deserving steady Officer, but who was in Oude during the whole of the Pindaree war. He would therefore be superceded by most Captains who might be promoted for their services in it, as he is a Cadet of 1798.

Upon his arrival he was posted to a Corps then in Bengal, and unluckily remained below Benares until 1806. From that time until the beginning of this war he has been always with his Corps, and in all the service that was going forward. He was in the Army that assembled to oppose Ranjeet Singh in 1808-9—He joined the Light Infantry in 1809, and was in the Army that advanced into Malwa, under Sir Gabriel Martindell in 1810.—In the same year he served in the short expedition from Chatterpoor up the ghauts, under the late Colonel Kelly. He served under General Martindell in the Rewah campaign,

and in the force that went against Alwar under Sir Dyson Marshall. He was always noted for his coolness and judgment, and during the short time our Major was absent from the battalion was a very zealous Commandant. He had indeed one of the best bazaars I ever saw. Let any reflecting man consider how very injurious and painful it would be to this Officer to see a captain 4 or 5 years his junior promoted before him to a Majority! and this too when from his Corps being kept in Oude during the campaign, my friend could have no such opportunity of distinguishing himself.

There is another equally hard case, which would be much felt if the measure took place. There are many very excellent and steady Officers who have obtained Staff appointments, which keep them out of the field. In performing their duty as Paymasters, of Barrackmasters, and many similar situations, they are of the greatest use to Government and to our Honourable Employers; and some of them are Officers who got these appointments on account of their Military talents. Yet as the *very performance* of their duties keeps them out of the field, they must, although conscious of their own merits, be constantly superseded by the progress of this new-fangled system. Here is a plain case that must occasion disgust. It is useless to reason from abstract theories—let facts and experience be our guide, and let us hope that our excellent system of rise by seniority will be preserved inviolate.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

September 2, 1819.

Brevet Bank.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I had the pleasure of reading another Letter this morning from the Officer of the New School, and although this rejoinder must perhaps lie in your office till Tuesday next, still I shall make no delay in its transmission, in case any earlier insertion may be conveniently afforded it. However decidedly and materially I yet differ from this Officer, still I cannot avoid expressing the real pleasure it gives me to see our discussion so amicably carried on, and conducted in a manner (I speak principally of his share of it, though there can be neither vanity nor immodesty in including my own) so free from that discouraging warmth and peevishness which so frequently characterize Newspaper, and indeed many more celebrated controversies, thereby not only turning a beneficial exertion into ridicule, but giving rise even to feeling of personal hostility in the breasts of those immediately concerned.

I trust that if the indisputable importance of the question now under investigation, should call forth the sentiments of abler Officers (and with the candour and manly sincerity of my Opponent, I hope it will) that they will agree with us in our ideas of the necessity which exists, both for the properly upholding our own characters, and for the general benefit, of making known their sentiments in a gentlemanly and becoming manner, otherwise I shall certainly second the SOLDIER OF FORTUNE in then recommending the *De Courcey* mode to your attention. Any "palpable hits," however, which bear no malignancy on the face of them, not only enliven the debate, but add to the force of the arguments, by shewing the weakness of the opposite reasoning; and as I always avail myself (as a skilful soldier ought to do) of any openings, or unguarded places I may meet with in the enemy's rank, so I can bear a *cut* myself, when scientifically made, with perfect good humour, and mental composure.

I shall now proceed to the disputed point; upon which he does not enter till his third paragraph, wherein he states that he has always considered the *main* part of the question to be whether the introduction of this Brevet Rank would, in its effects, be advantageous to the Government; because, although the circumstance of its being well or ill-received throughout the Army is certainly a *material*, still it cannot be considered in any other light than that of a *secondary*, consideration. My views of the subject are by no means either really, or expressly, so confined as he says they are; because they extend very amply to the investigation of what would be *most* beneficial to the Government; and the arguments I have all along used to elucidate these views, go very fully to prove that, in my opinion, the Government cannot be *most* benefited by forcing upon the Army an arrangement with which by far the greatest portion of it will be displeased; when such arrangement may be avoided by the substitution of others equally well adapted, in point of honor, to the end in view, and far more satisfactory to those most immediately concerned.

The liberal, manly, and fearless, conduct of the Governor General, in allowing such free and open discussions relating to measures either executed or in contemplation (and which renders the present times totally different, in that respect, from others of no very late date) makes me the more loth to appear, by too great freedom, to take advantage of this indulgence, or I certainly should speak yet stronger than I have hitherto done against the proposed mode of rewarding merit; but I will still say that no Government can be benefitted by irritating its Army, and that no wise or liberal Government, such as is the Honorable Company's, ever would adopt measures that were likely to produce such consequences. I am not more fully convinced of my own existence than I am of the majority of the Army's being dissatisfied with Brevet Rank; and I do think that before an arrangement takes effect, in which the Officers of the Army are more concerned, and more likely to feel either its good or bad consequences, than the Government, some pains should be taken to find out what are the opinions generally entertained of it. This would not be an improper condescension on the part of our Superiors, nor do I mean it to be done in the common way of collecting votes; but if Commanding, and other Officers of rank and consequence, were told to take opportunities of introducing the subject among their Juniors, and having thus learned the most prevalent notions regarding it, to send in then a regularly formed opinion of their own, wherein the others should be noticed, it would at once be seen whether the general sense of the Army was for or against the introduction of Brevet Promotion, and opinions thus formed should, in justice to us all, I think be allowed great weight in the official discussions.

This proposal of mine must not, however, be misconstrued by its being supposed that I would introduce a system of espionage into the Army, by having all our desultory and unguarded expressions sent down to Government, either on this or any other subject, by our senior Officers. Far from it—it is only on this one point that I wish to give Government some idea of the general opinions regarding it; and in such a way (but no matter whether the above one, or any other) as would not appear unbecoming on their part, or impertinent on ours. These discussions will never let us learn more than the opinions of the few, because I know (and so must my Opponent) that there are many, very many Officers, who on reading our Letters, take in their own minds, one side of the argument; but who are, at the same time, too averse to writing, or too diffident ever to publish their opinions in any, but a verbal shape—at table, or during a morning visit; and it is this consideration, and a perfect knowledge of its being well-founded, that makes me wish for the adoption of some other and more certain mode of knowing the sentiments of all our Brother Officers. I would not, however, have these public argumentations abolished, because they serve, I am sure, to fix people's attention to the subject, and make them digest it well internally, which cannot fail to prove beneficial in the end.

So far I have swerved from my Opponent's Letter, to which I now revert, and find in his fourth paragraph a repetition of part of his first Letter,—relating to this loved, "well, warmly-loved," system of Seniority being broken into, above twenty years ago. This has not been the case, Sir, nor is it yet done away with—and although he may extend his list of supercessions to double and treble its present magnitude, still it will not prove that ever such a Brevet as this has been, in vogue—or that any other Brevet (since our Army became in all respects a regularly organized one) ever passed over Seniors to promote a Junior. When I said there was no comparison whatever to be made between Regimental, and this Brevet supercession, I did not, either in words or meaning, say that I alluded to the numbers liable to be superseded by each method, as (from his mentioning 5 or 6 in a whole campaign) he seems to think I did. I care not if twenty Regimental supercessions take place in a month, and only one of the other in a year; for it will not affect my argument—which goes distinctly to say (I refer him to every part of it) that the one Brevet promotion would cause greater disgust in the Officers superseded by it, than what the twenty Regimental ones would.

I will tell you, Sir, by descending for a moment, to a few low, but truly characteristic expressions, how great the difference is reckoned between the two, by those who are so unfortunate as to feel their effects. If an old Lieutenant finds himself overtopped by some one in another Regiment, he exclaims (I leave my Opponent to say whether I am not correct) "what a d—d lucky fellow that is—he came into the country three years after me, and there he is a Captain, while I'm still fourth;" —Or, "d—d that fellow, he was three below me in this very Corps when he got removed by the New Regiments, and there he is Captain by old—'s death."

These expressions are generally mentioned in a jocose, more than an irritated manner, but he still would not like to be sent on command with the lucky Junior. From never (thank God!) having seen the Brevet

supercession yet, I cannot positively say how that would rouse the rhetorical powers of the overtopped, but I think it would give them greater vehemence than what is apparent in the above quoted flourishes. It would make the chosen few more enemies than friends, I fear, for in spite of all the declamation of both my Opponents (the last of whom I only consider an echo of the first) on the purity and virtue of human nature, I will still make my appeal to it when I assert, that Brevet supercession would cause downright enmity among the most cordial set of Officers of which an Army ever could boast. Those people who so thoughtlessly tell us there is no envy among Officers, don't reflect that it is nothing more than "emulation in the learn'd or brave," and that envy is in truth the parent of that emulation—which they have taken so much pains to extol.

Supposing, as the New School Writer says, that the established usage I mentioned was a violent innovation, and that it did cause great discontent, I conceive he could not have brought forward a stronger argument for my side of the question; and I am therefore heartily obliged to him: for if one violent innovation caused great discontent twenty years ago, I think (as our natures cannot have materially changed since then) that another violent innovation now, would produce very similar consequences; and although Government did let these murmurs pass then, as the "idle wind which they regard not," still I do not conceive that any equitable and benevolent Government would visit a truly loyal and attached Army with another, and not an indispensable innovation, merely from that circumstance,—the record of which does not, in my opinion, confer any degree of credit on either the wisdom or the conciliating disposition of the then Government.

His sixth paragraph contains nothing of consequence, except an indirect mode of accusing me of falsehood! by saying I mis-quoted his words. An act of this kind, Sir, is far less excusable than telling a falsehood in the common way is, because it is a more deliberate mode of misrepresentation—and I feel, therefore, the less regret in returning his words, by telling him that I have not misquoted him—in words, in meaning, in punctuation, even, or in the method adopted by him of putting certain words in Italics. If he can find even a particle—a comma—misquoted in my transcription of the sentence in question, I shall contentedly (from knowing it deserved) bear the imputation of having told a falsehood; but if, on comparing the two, he can find no such thing as even a typographical error, I trust, and am convinced, indeed, that we will retract his unfounded and injurious assertion.

In his eighth paragraph he again brings forward the instance of Brigade Majors, although it can no more illustrate the question in dispute, than if he had said the Sun was farther off than the Moon: for notwithstanding a Senior Officer should have to send fifty reports daily to a Junior Staff Officer, still it is for the Commandant of the Corps, Station, or Division, that the report—every report—is made; and it is from him that all orders come, no matter by whom they may be delivered. No mater who the Brigade Major is, every Officer must report to him, but for the information of the Officer commanding, &c.

He calls my illustration of the Regimental Captain reporting to the Adjutant—no illustration, altho' if it be not, and almost in his own terms, (which are, in substance, a Senior Officer having to report to a Junior Staff,) I confess my total ignorance of what an illustration is; and I also consider it an illustration of his mistake, when I say that although an Aid-de-Camp gives orders to every subordinate General Officer in the Field, during an action,—and although every such Officer must send the report of his operations to the Adjutant General of his superior—still he never does, and never will, feel himself under the command of either; but were he superseded by the Brevet's being conferred on some meritorious Officer, or (what is far more likely) some meritorious Aid-de-Camp, for carrying home Dispatches, he would then feel that he was commanded;—and if such a feeling would carry any thing else along with it than jealousy and discontent, the true honourable military feeling must have either evaporated from, or could never have had any great sway in, such an Officer's breast.

My Opponent is again mistaken in asserting that pecuniary rewards are given merely to support titles; for they are given as additional rewards for the merits that obtained the title: and if this be not the case, why is not a pension given to every poor man who gets a title for his valour, and who has perhaps only his pay to support it? I shall here quote the opinion of a very sensible writer (Major Stephen Payne Adze) on "Rewards and Punishments," because it exactly suits the case in point, and because I most fully and entirely agree with him. It is probable my answerer has read the whole Essay, but if not, I recommend it to his perusal (it is in the same book as the Treatise on Courts Martial) for it points out several other modes of rewarding military merit, which are well worthy of attention; and in the course of which

he says: "I would not however have the reader to imagine, that I am entirely averse from pecuniary rewards. The profession of a Soldier, it is well known, is not a lucrative one, and I cannot see any impropriety of blending honor and profit together." This is precisely what I wish to establish, and have blended them together in what, for brevity's sake, has been termed *laced coats* and *superior batta*; but let them be blended in any other equitable way, and the effects will be just the same.

To say, indeed, that an Officer would pay no regard to money, when his sole object in coming here at all is to accumulate it, and when he can never get it in half so honorable a way as in the shape of a reward for brilliant services, is carrying the matter too far. I have no doubt but that a Knight of the Round Table would have preferred a kiss from his fair Lady, or a tilt at every one he met, to all the money and jewels found in Seringapatam; but, as I have already observed, our notions are a good deal altered since those days, and although a Knight of the *Round Table* cared so little for pecuniary independence, yet it strikes me very forcibly that a Knight of the *Bath* entertains no such *Quixotish* ideas; which says, I think, a great deal for his superior good sense, and at the same time, takes nothing away from his courage and love of honorary distinction.

In his 17th paragraph he tells us how the Regulations which will most probably usher in this new Rank, are calculated to prevent any abuse of it. Is there, let me ask him a single Staff Line in the Army which was not introduced by just the same strict and *anti-abusive* Rules? Certain rank, and certain merit, are laid down as *indispensable*, and *laid down* indeed without ever being taken up again! Interest bears down every thing, whether connected with, or disjoined from merit; and although there is, I sincerely believe as *little* regard paid now to its claims (interest I mean) as ever was done under any former Government, still it does and *must*, possess overwhelming influence.

It will be seen that ifever this Brevet Rank is introduced, its honors will fall upon many a one;

"Who never set a squadron in the field,
Nor the division of battle knows
More than a spinster."

I am not myself in any confidential situation, nor do I know that my Opponent either is, or has been: but, if he can, will he tell me whether, when an application is made by powerful friends for a Commissariat appointment, the question is ever asked, "Is the young gentleman a *steady* Officer, a good accountant, &c.?" or if in the Quarter Master General's line: "Can, so and so, survey, draw out correct maps, execute drawings of all kinds, and the like?" or for an Interpretership: "Is your young friend well qualified in Persian and Hindustanni for this important situation; so that the life and honor of a fellow creature will never be endangered by his ignorance of the Native languages?" and so on; thro' the whole *blue-faced* list.

Will my Opponent answer these questions, or even say whether he thinks such pains are generally taken to find out where merit lies concealed? If, therefore, it be granted that interest guides (in a very great measure, for *more* merit is also *very* frequently rewarded now a days, which was not the case formerly,) the bestowing of all *other* situations, in despite of Rules and *strong* Regulations, I cannot think myself at all extravagant in supposing that the Brevet Promotion, too, will in a short time feel its powerful interference; and this circumstance will not go a great way to diminish the disgust which, I maintain, will spring from its first introduction.

I am, &c.

Calcutta, Sept. 3, 1819.

A FRIEND TO THE ARMY.

Military.

General Orders, by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council.

FORT WILLIAM, AUGUST 28, 1819.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following Transfer, Promotions and Adjustment of Rank:

Infantry.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Macdonald, K. C. B., is transferred to the Senior List, from the 21st of March 1819, vice Morgan deceased in England.

Brevet-Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel James Tetley to be Colonel of a Regiment, from the 21st March 1819, vice Macdonald transferred to the Senior List.

Major Robert Patton, C. B., to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Tetley promoted, with rank from the 1st of July 1819, vice Francis transferred to the Invalid Pension Establishment.

Major William Hill Perkins to be Lieutenant-Colonel, from the 1st of August 1819, vice Weston deceased.

5th Regiment of Native Infantry.

Captain Henry Huthwaite to be Major, from the 1st of July 1819, vice Patton promoted.

29th Regiment of Native Infantry.

Captain John Dekmain to be Major, and Lieutenant and Brevet-Captain Hugh Morrieson to be Captain of a Company, from the 1st of August 1819, in succession to Perkins promoted.

ADJUSTMENT OF RANK.

Infantry.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Keble, date of rank 21st March 1819, vice Tetley promoted.

28th Regiment of Native Infantry.

Major J. J. F. Leith, date of rank 21st March 1819, vice Keble promoted.

Captain C. H. Raymond, ditto 21st March 1819, vice Leith promoted, Assistant Surgeon Skeeton, on the Establishment of Fort Saint George, having furnished the prescribed Certificate from the Medical Department, and an Engagement from Mr. Fulton, of the House of Messrs. Mackintosh and Co. of Calcutta, to be answerable for any demands that may hereafter be brought against him by Government in lieu of the usual Pay Certificate, he is permitted to proceed to Europe on Furlough for the benefit of his health.

Assistant Surgeon Henderson, of the Medical Establishment at Prince of Wales' Island, having furnished the prescribed Certificate from the Medical Department, is permitted to proceed to Europe on Furlough for the benefit of his health.

His Lordship in Council is pleased to make the following Promotions:

Ordnance Commissariat.

Troop Serjeant Major Christopher Prest, of the Horse Brigade, to be Sub-Conductor of Ordnance, from the 2d June 1819, vice Liuton, whose promotion has not taken effect.

Serjeant Richard Brinsley Smith, of the Regiment of Foot Artillery, to be Sub-Conductor of Ordnance, from the 3d of June 1819, vice Housden promoted.

Gunner Bryan Dunn, of the Invalid Pension Establishment, permitted to reside and draw his Pension at the Presidency.

An Allowance of Five Sonat Rupees per mensem is sanctioned for the Riding Master of the Horse Artillery, for each Troop of that Corps, not including the Rocket Troop, for Cavassons, Whips, &c. required for the Horse Drills.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint, from the 3d ultimo, Lieutenant Colonel J. R. Lumley, of the Honorable Company's European Regiment, at present Acting as Town Major of Fort William, to be Commandant of the Fortress of Asseerghur.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct Major Colebrooke, of the Royal Artillery and Supernumerary Aid-de-Camp to the Governor General, to proceed to Bombay, under instructions which will be communicated to him, and on his arrival he will place himself at the disposal of the officer Commanding the Forces at that Presidency.

The undermentioned Officer has leave of absence:

Lieutenant R. R. Bruce, 1st Batt. 1st Regt. to remain at the Presidency, on urgent private affairs, from the 1st of August to the 30th of Sept.

FORT WILLIAM, AUGUST 28, 1819.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council has great pleasure in publishing to the Army the following Paragraph of a General Letter from the Honorable the Court of Directors, in the Military Department, under date the 30th of March 1819, authorizing certain revised rates of Compensation to Officers, who may lose their Baggage and Camp Equipage, under circumstances therein prescribed.

Reply to General Military Letter dated April 11, 1817.

11 & 22.—Stating that Government having had recently under consideration the Rates of Compensation which are allowed to Officers for the Loss of Baggage, &c. while on duty, are of opinion that those Rates (being the same as obtain in His Majesty's Army) are insufficient for Indian service, and communicating a Revised Scale of Rates, with other particulars prepared by the Military Board with the view of enabling Court to make such revision in the present Regulations as the case may appear to merit.

32.—Having fully considered the circumstances and arguments detailed in these Paragraphs, we have resolved to accede to your recommendation in favor of a revision of the rates of Compensation to Officers, who may lose their Baggage and Camp Equipage, while on actual Service.

33.—We accordingly direct that the following Rates be allowed to Officers on your Establishment, who may lose the whole of their Baggage and Camp Equipage, when on duty in the Field, or when proceeding by Sea, under the orders of Government.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

On the 9th ultimo, Mr. James Fielder, of the Honorable Company's Bengal Marine, to Miss Louisa Walters, second Daughter of Mr. James Walters, of Cawnpore.

At Bombay, on the 4th ultimo, by the Reverend Samuel Payne, Cornet Potts, of His Majesty's 17th Light Dragoons, to Miss Margaret Hewitt, youngest Daughter of Marmaduke Hewitt, Esq. of Beverley, Yorkshire.

BIRTHS.

At Bombay, on the 6th ultimo, the Lady of Lieutenant Stevenson, Deputy Commissary of Stores, of a Daughter.

At Calcutta, on the 4th instant, the Lady of Major Robert Hampton, of a still-born Son.

On the 31st ultimo, Mrs. W. Wallis, of a Son.

DEATHS.

Yesterday, the 6th instant, Mr. John Alsager, Organist of St. Andrew's Church, aged 27 years.

At Bareilly, on the 15th ultimo, George, the infant Son of Lieutenant L. J. Hamilton, 4th Native Infantry, aged 6 days.

On the 2d instant, Anne, the Lady of Major P. L. Grant, Officiating Town and Fort Major, aged 28 years.

On the 26th July, Colonel Richard Frith, aged 62—leaving a large circle of friends to lament his unexpected demise. Few men possessed more general knowledge of India than Colonel Frith; and had he lived to fill the station which his most intimate friends knew was the greatest wish of his heart on returning to Europe, namely, a Seat in the Direction, we know none would have been more competent to the duties required from a member of that body. A kindness of disposition and vivacity of temper always attached a numerous circle of friends to Colonel Frith, who now feel the loss they have sustained in his untimely end.

On the 5th of May, at Sea, on board the Moira, Mrs. Maddock, the Lady of Captain Maddock, Assistant Secretary to the Military Board, and Daughter of Benjamin Comberbach, Esq.

At the Mauritius, whither he had proceeded some months ago in the hope of re-establishing his health, Sir Alexander Anstruther, Kt. late Recorder of Bombay.

At Bhewady, on the 1st ultimo, John Stephenson, Esq. Assistant Surgeon, Bombay Establishment.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

Aug.	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
4	Pr. Char. of Wales	British	J. Gribble	England	May 24
4	Mar. of Wellington	British	J. Wood	England	May 24

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Sept.	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
5	Monarch	British	D. Campbell	Greenock

Passengers.

Passengers arrived on the Princess Charlotte of Wales.

Mrs. Sherlock; Mrs. Pemberton; Mrs. Brown; Two Misses Keys; Miss Sherlock; Miss Buckingham; Col. W. Robinson, H. M. 24th Foot; Lieut. A. Watson, ditto; Lieut. William Mellis, ditto; Ensign George Murray, ditto; Ensign H. W. Hartly, ditto; Surgeon J. Featherstone, ditto; Captain George Holford, His Majesty's 59th Foot; Captain Husband, His Majesty's 87th Foot; Lieutenant O'Brien, ditto; Mr. Sherlock, Paymaster, ditto; Lieutenant T. Morgell, His Majesty's 8th Light Dragoons; Cornet James Robinson, ditto; Captain Dickson, Native Infantry; Captain Andore, ditto; Captain Pratt, ditto; Lieutenant Pemberton, ditto; Mr. Garret, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Shortland, Mr. Templar, Mr. Daizell, Cadets; Mr. Franklin, Volunteer, His Majesty's 24th Regt.; Mr. Gardner, Mr. Ashmore, Mr. Robertson, Free Merchants; Mr. Mayne, Free Mariner; Mr. Ross, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Freeman, Pilot Service.

On the Marquis of Wellington.

Mrs. Hope; Mrs. Wyatt; H. Hope, Esq. Civil Service; J. McNabb, Esq. ditto; Assistant Surgeon McLeod, M. D.; Assistant Surgeon C. W. Welshman, M. D.; Assistant Surgeon Griffiths; J. Fairlie, Esq.; Lieut. Colonel Tidy, C. B.; Lieutenants Brenan, Mackenzie, Fowler, Kent, Mansell, His Majesty's 14th Regiment, with a Detachment; Ensign Murray, His Majesty's 59th Regiment, with a Detachment; Ensign Carothers, His Majesty's 17th Regiment; Ensign Cates, His Majesty's 87th Regiment; Messrs. Wyatt, Cheap, Cooke, Campbell, Writers; Messrs. Fleming, White, Wakefield, Cautley, Campbell, Roberts, McMorine, Moorshead, Halhead, McVittie, Corbet, Cadets; Mr. Furber, Free Mariner.

Nautical Notices.

The Honorable Company's ships Princess Charlotte of Wales, Captain Gribble, and Marquis of Wellington, Captain Wood, from England the 24th of May, arrived at the New Anchorage on Sunday. Their Passengers will be found in the usual place.

On the 29th of August, the Princess Charlotte of Wales spoke His Majesty's ship Topaze, from Penang, for Trincomalee.

On the 16th of April, an American ship from Canton, Inden with a cargo said to be valued at half a million sterling, was wrecked on the Jersey coast, and the Captain and twenty-seven of his crew drowned.

The outward-bound East Indiamen that were to sail for Bombay, Bengal, and China, in June, had received on board about two millions of ounces of silver in dollars, &c. for remittance to this country.

The Honorable Company's ship Buckinghamshire arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 21st of April; she left China in company with the Sculby Castle, on the 5th of December last, and St. Helena with the Orwell, also in company on the 16th of February.

The Orwell separated from the Buckinghamshire on the 18th of March, in lat. 20° 39' N. lon. 37° 30' W. and the Sculby Castle on the 4th of April, among the Western Islands.

The undermentioned ships have arrived at Deal—The Duke of York off Portland, the 30th of April; Lady Melville, off Weymouth, the 1st of May; Princess Amelia, ditto ditto; Orwell, off the Isle of Wight, ditto; Sculby Castle, off Brighton, 2d of May; Prince Regent, in company with the Marchioness of Ely, arrived in the Channel, from Bengal, on the 1st of May.

The Duke of York left China on the 17th of December, arrived at St. Helena the 2nd of March, and sailed from thence on the 5th of March with the London and Canning; separated from those two ships on the 22nd of April, in an unsuccessful endeavour to save the Carpenter, who fell overboard.

The Lady Melville left China the 21st of December, arrived at St. Helena the 2nd of March, and sailed for England on the 6th of March, in company with the Princess Amelia, which ship left China on the 23rd of December.

The Orwell left China on the 20th of December, St. Helena on the 16th of February, in company with the Buckinghamshire and Sculby Castle, parted on the 19th of March, and arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 1st of May.

The Sculby Castle sailed from China on the 6th of December, in company with the Orwell and Buckinghamshire; parted company with the Orwell on the 20th of March, and with the Buckinghamshire on the 5th of April, after a second gale of wind off the Western Islands, and arrived off Brighton on the 2d of May.

The ships Charles Mills and Waterloo, chartered by Government to bring home detachments of troops, arrived at Portsmouth on the 2nd of May.

Commercial Reports.

The following extract of a letter, from a Commercial House in London, dated the 5th of May, is taken from the India Gazette of yesterday.

"The Sale of 9712 Chests of Indigo, which commenced at the East India House on the 22d ultimo, have been this day brought to its conclusion, we beg leave to acquaint you of the result.

All Indigo, good quality for Shipping, has had a steady demand throughout the course of this Sale, and has maintained its price: the Indigoes of decided quality for Home consumption have also had a fair demand, and have sold satisfactorily; but, wherever the assortment proved either of mixed description, or, of inferior character, the demand has fallen off, and the prices have consequently given way: such was especially the case with the Lean and Sandy Squares of up-country Indigo; of which there was a considerable portion in this Sale—and which, being nearly neglected by the speculative Buyer, have been almost entirely left upon the Importers' hands: good, and decided Home consuming Indigoes, have sold at a reduction of 4d. per lb. from the prices of that Sale: common Indigo, at a reduction of 6d. to 9d. ditto; and mixt, ordinary, and inferior Indigo, at a reduction of 9d. to 1s. ditto.

The Madras Indigoes in this Sale, of which there were 753 Chests, have also sold variously; those of low, and drossy quality, having met with little or no demand, while the fine and tender qualities have gone off readily, and at fair prices.

It is computed that the proportion bought in by the Proprietors at this Sale may be nearly equal to two-fifths of the whole quantity; say, about 3,700 Chests.

Of the prospects of the Indigo Market we are induced to retain a favorable opinion; upon consideration both of the diminished extent of the stock in Europe, as of the alleged deficiency of last Season's produce in Bengal."